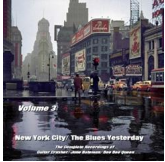


New York City - The Blues Yesterday Vol.3

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 09 April 2015 16:35 - Last Updated Saturday, 07 January 2017 21:48

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01. *I've got to know* 02. *Cuddle up* Guitar Crusher (Sidney Selby) - vocals, guitar B. Brown – harmonica Clyde Sykes – piano Willie Blair – bass, drums New York City, 1962
03. *I feel the pain* 04. *Itch with me* 05. *The monkey* 06. *I once loved you baby* Guitar Crusher – vocals, guitar; band New York City, 21 august 1962
07. *I can't help it* 08. *Better days ahead* 09. *Why oh why* 10. *Weak for your love* Guitar Crusher – vocals, guitar; band Cincinnati, Oh. 8 may 1963
11. *I'll catch your tears* 12. *Goin' down slow* Guitar Crusher – vocals, guitar; band New York City, 12 january 1967
13. *Since my baby hit the numbers* 14. *Hambone blues* 15. *What about me?* Guitar Crusher – vocals Jimmy Spruill - guitar Alvin Lee - guitar Terry Noonan – trumpet Bud Parks – trumpet Alan Skidmore – tenor saxophone Les Wigfield – tenor saxophone Dave Willis - baritone saxophone Chick Churchill – piano Leo Lyons – bass Ric Lee – drums New York City, 6 august 1968
16. *Need your love* 17. *Yes I will* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone Jimmy Spruill - guitar Horace Cooper – piano, bass, drums vocal group New York City, july 1957
18. *Believe me darling* 19. *Come on little boy* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone, guitar, bass Bernard Purdie – drums New York City, 1960
20. *What ya gonna do?* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone, vocals Billy Butler – guitar, bass Bernard Purdie – drums New York City, 1962
21. *I don't wanta I still love him* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone, vocals Band New York City, april 1963
22. *Georgia mule* *Mama I love him so* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone Paul Williams – baritone saxophone Band New York City, September 1963
23. *Go away Mr blues (Everlast 45)* 24. *Possum belly overalls (Everlast 45)* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone Jimmy Spruill – guitar B. Brown - harmonica Royal Hamilton – piano, bass Willie Jenkins – drums New York City 1964
25. *Possum belly overalls (Shaw 45)* 26. *Go away Mr blues (Shaw 45)* June Bateman - vocals Noble Watts – tenor saxophone Band New York City 1965
27. *Queen Bee* *You made me do it*

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Bee Bee Queen – vocals Teacho Wilshire – piano Band New York City, 1956
28. I Wanna be loved 29. Yes Sir'ee
Bee Bee Queen – vocals Teacho Wilshire – piano Band New York City, 1957

And there it is the third volume of our New York City blues Yesterday series.

Guitar Crusher was born Sidney Selby in Hyde County (North Carolina) on July 28th 1931. He started to sing at an early age in the Baptist Church of his mother and followed her to New York around 1950. Very fond of the R&B bands of Harlem, he started to lead his own group, The Midnight Rockers with whom he played in the clubs. His moniker (Guitar Crusher) seems to come from the consequence of a brawl in a bar and not because he anticipated the histrionics stage acts of Jimi Hendrix! Anyway, Guitar Crusher enjoyed some success during the 60's when he recorded a string of nice 45s and toured with such names as the Drifters, the Isley Brothers or Ben E. King. The 70's were nevertheless lean years for him and he then drifted into obscurity, making a living outside of music. But some of his 45 having been reissued on British LP's, he was rediscovered by European blues buffs during the late 80's and persuaded to resume his musical career. He even settled in Germany where he recorded several CD's. He is still sporadically singing on stage in Europe. We have here gathered all his New York 45's.

June Bateman (born Marian June Batemon on November 17th 1939 at Schulenburg, Tx) has came with her parents at an early age to New York, living in Brooklyn. Still a teenager, she started to sing with local groups like The Marquis. But this is only when she met (and quickly married) the famous sax player Noble Watts - see the article on him in this blog - that she embarked in a fully musical professional career. As the featured singer of her husband's orchestra, she recorded a string of excellent 45s between blues, R&B and Rock'n'roll, some of them (Possum belly overalls) having even become "classics". She gave up her musical career during the late 60's to take care of her family, holding a steady job for the State of New York. In 1984, she followed Noble Watts to his native DeLand (Florida) where she is still living and playing an active part for the local and annual Noble "Thin Man" Watts festival.

At last, the so-called Bee Bee Queen is still a shadowy figure. She recorded two 45's in 1956-57. Any info about her would be welcome. Thanks a lot to Jack D., John Weill and the ever-reliable Gyro 1966 for their help when making this anthology. Two June Bateman titles (I still love him/ Mama I love him so) and one Bee Bee Queen (You made me do it) are still missing. Thanks by advance to anybody willing to share them. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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